environmental considerations and there is no other alternative project proposal better than the present project proposal which can obviate or minimize submergence. The investment clearance for the project has not been accorded by the Planning Commission as it depends upon establishing its techno-economic viability, acceptance by the advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, State Government obtaining necessary clearances from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for forest area and clearance from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded clearance to the project in respect of environmental aspects.

Salary to the employees of NPCC

†3025. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the salary of the employees of NPCC Ltd. was not revised on 1st January, 1992 as well as 1st January, 1997.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the salary of all the officers and some of the employees has been revised from time to time.

(c) if so, the reasons for the discrimination being made with its employees; and

(d) by when Government would take steps to stop the discrimination being made by the managers of NPCC with its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The pay scales of employees of NPCC Ltd. borne on CDA pattern pay scales were revised as per the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission w.e.f. 1.1.96. The pay scales of employees who are borne on IDA pay scales which were due for revision w.e.f. 1.1.97 have been implemented w.e.f. 9.8.2002. The wage revision of workmen is pending due to a legal embargo issued by Industrial Court, Nagpur restraining the Management of NPCC to hold discussions from representatives of workmen Unions. The matter is still *sub-judice*.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.